the alignment of the line of actual control as well as on the boundary question. In the meantime, pending a final settlement, both sides have agreed to clarify the LAC and to take up perceived violations through established mechanisms including the Joint Working Group, the Expert Group, border personnel meetings, flag meetings and diplomatic channels.

Rising number of poor people

266. SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE:

SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM:

Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Eleventh Five Year Plan document has sounded an alert on increasing poverty in a season of gravity-defying surges that saw the Sensex scale beyond 20,000 points;

(b) if so, whether the plan draft has shown that in States — UP, Bihar, Maharashtra, Uttarakhand and Orissa— the number of poor people has risen although overall poverty has fallen;

(c) whether this document was discussed at the Planning Commission meeting in November, 2007; and

(d) if so, the steps Government proposes to take to reduce the number of poor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION (KUMARI SELJA): (a) The Eleventh Five Year Plan Document has reported the following trends of poverty in the country:

Percentage of people below poverty line in India (1973—2004)

Year	Rural	Urban	Combined
1973	56.44	49.01	54.88
1983	45.65	40.79	44.48
1993	37.27	32.36	35.97
2004	28.30	25.70	27.50

(b) It has been observed in the Eleventh Five Year Plan Document that in some States, the absolute numbers of the poor in the population, has actually increased over the last three decades: In Uttar Pradesh from 535.7 lakhs in 1973 to 590 lakhs in 2004-05; in Rajasthan from 128.5 lakhs to 134.9 lakhs; in Maharashtra from 287.4 lakhs to 317.3 lakhs and Nagaland 2.9 lakhs to 3.9 lakhs. The total number of poor has also increased in Madhya Pradesh (and Chhattisgarh taken together) from 276 lakhs to 340 lakhs and in Bihar (and Jharkhand) from 370 lakhs to 485 lakhs over the same period. There are many States where the number of

poor overall has remained roughly constant over the last two decades *viz.* Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Orissa and Mizoram.

(c) The Eleventh Five Year Plan Document was discussed in the Meeting of the National Development Council held on 19th December, 2007.

(d) In the urban areas, Government is implementing the Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY) for addressing the income generation/livelihood needs of the urban poor living below the poverty line. The scheme of Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY) strives to provide gainful exployment to the urban unemployed and underemployed poor by firstly, encouraging the setting up of self-employment ventures by those who have not studied beyond 9th standard and, secondly, by providing wage employment by utilizing their labour for construction of socially and economically useful public assets.

Further, the shelter and basic amenities requirements of the urban poor are addressed through the Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM). The Sub-Mission of Basic Services for Urban Poor (BSUP) under the Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM) caters to 63 identified Cities and Integrated Housing and Slum Development Programme (IHSDP), applies to cities/towns other than the 63 identified cities. Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM) stipulates the provision of education, health and social security benefits to the urban poor through convergence of all relevant programmes of the Central and State Governments at the urban local body level.

Aam Aadmi Aawaas proposal

267. SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM:
SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI:

Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has abandoned the National Housing Board's Aam Aadmi Aawaas proposal where Government was to build 31 million houses costing Rs. 1.00 lakh;

(b) whether his Ministry has introduced Government thrust on reservation with preference to SCs, STs and minorities with their proportion of Population of the urban agglomerate in tune with 2001 census; and

(c) whether five per cent subsidy scheme would start from January, 2008 and operate till 2012 and the Centre would provide Rs. 3995 crores over the next five years to provide purchasability to urban poor and create an enabling environment in securing housing for them?